

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a personal care product comprising:
applying a grip to a handle of a personal care product, the grip comprising ~~a core~~ an elastomeric core, wherein the elastomeric core is a thermoplastic elastomer and a sheath surrounding the core, the sheath having a hardness greater than the core.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~3~~1 wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic vulcanates (rubber polyolefin blends), polyetheramides, polyesters, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene (SEBS) block copolymers, styrene-butadiene-styrene (SBS) block copolymers, partially or fully hydrogenated styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymers, styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymers, polyurethanes, polyolefin elastomers, polyolefin plastomers, styrenic based polyolefin elastomers, and compatible mixtures thereof.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the core has a hardness of less than 50 Shore A.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the core has a hardness of less than 25 Shore A.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the core has a hardness of less than 10 Shore A.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sheath is an elastomeric material.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the elastomeric material is a thermoplastic elastomer.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic vulcanates (rubber polyolefin blends), polyetheramides, polyesters, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene (SEBS) block copolymers, styrene-butadiene-styrene (SBS) block copolymers, partially or fully hydrogenated styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymers, styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymers, polyurethanes, polyolefin elastomers, polyolefin plastomers, styrenic based polyolefin elastomers, and compatible mixtures thereof.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sheath is approximately 0.4 mm to 4.0 mm thick.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the sheath is approximately 0.5 mm to 2.0 mm thick.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the sheath is approximately 0.5 mm to 1.0 mm thick.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sheath has a hardness of approximately 25 Shore A to 80 Shore A.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the sheath has a hardness of approximately 30 Shore A to 60 Shore A.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the sheath has a hardness of approximately 40 Shore A to 55 Shore A.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the personal care product is selected from the group consisting of toothbrushes and razors.

18-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) A personal care product comprising:

- (a) a handle; and
- (b) a grip formed on the handle, the grip comprising ~~a core~~ an elastomeric core, wherein the elastomeric core is a thermoplastic elastomer and a sheath surrounding the core, the sheath having a hardness greater than the core.

22-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) The personal care product of claim ~~23~~ 21 wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic vulcanates (rubber polyolefin blends), polyetheramides, polyesters, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene (SEBS) block copolymers, styrene-butadiene-styrene (SBS) block copolymers, partially or fully hydrogenated styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymers, styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymers, polyurethanes, polyolefin elastomers, polyolefin plastomers, styrenic based polyolefin elastomers, and compatible mixtures thereof.

25. (Original) The personal care product of claim 21 wherein the core has a hardness of less than 50 Shore A.

26. (Original) The personal care product of claim 25 wherein the core has a hardness of less than 25 Shore A.

27. (Original) The personal care product of claim 26 wherein the core has a hardness of less than 10 Shore A.

28. (Original) The personal care product of claim 21 wherein the sheath is an elastomeric material.

29. (Original) The personal care product of claim 28 wherein the elastomeric material is a thermoplastic elastomer.

30. (Original) The personal care product of claim 29 wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic vulcanates (rubber polyolefin blends), polyetheramides, polyesters, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene (SEBS) block copolymers, styrene-butadiene-styrene (SBS) block copolymers, partially or fully hydrogenated styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymers, styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymers, polyurethanes, polyolefin elastomers, polyolefin plastomers, styrenic based polyolefin elastomers, and compatible mixtures thereof.

31. (Original) The personal care product of claim 21 wherein the sheath is approximately 0.4 mm to 4.0 mm thick.

32. (Original) The personal care product of claim 31 wherein the sheath is approximately 0.5 mm to 2.0 mm thick.

33. (Original) The personal care product of claim 32 wherein the sheath is approximately 0.5 mm to 1.0 mm thick.

34. (Original) The personal care product of claim 21 wherein the sheath has a hardness of approximately 25 Shore A to 80 Shore A.

35. (Original) The personal care product of claim 34 wherein the sheath has a hardness of approximately 30 Shore A to 60 Shore A.

36. (Original) The personal care product of claim 35 wherein the sheath has a hardness of approximately 40 Shore A to 55 Shore A.

37. (Original) The personal care product of claim 21 wherein the handle is a toothbrush handle.

38. (Original) The personal care product of claim 21 wherein the handle is a razor handle.

39. (Original) The personal care product of claim 21 wherein the handle is a hairbrush handle.

40-47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently amended) A handheld household appliance comprising:

(a) a handle; and

(b) a grip formed on the handle, the grip comprising ~~a core~~ an elastomeric core,

wherein the elastomeric core is a thermoplastic elastomer and a sheath surrounding the core, wherein the sheath has a hardness greater than the core.